

# YOUR PART

All owners or residents of private property must have the snow on their sidewalks cleared by noon the day after a snowfall. Shoveling sidewalks helps prevent accidents and increases accessibility for pedestrians.

If your sidewalk is adjacent to a primary snow route, please wait until the snow plows have cleared the streets before shoveling. Plows may need to push snow onto curbs and sidewalks to keep the streets clear.

Boulder’s Environmental Enforcement Officers can issue a summons to persons failing to comply with the snow removal ordinance. The fine for a first offense is \$100. The maximum fine is \$1,000 and 90 days in jail. To report sidewalk snow removal violations, please call Environmental Enforcement at 303-441-3239 or go online to [www.boulderplandevlop.net](http://www.boulderplandevlop.net).

NEERS

Open this page to find out more about winter safety.

## IceBusters

Senior citizens and physically disabled persons who are unable to clear snow from their sidewalks may receive assistance through the city’s IceBusters Program. For more information or to be a volunteer, call 303.441.3157.

## Important Phone Numbers

<b>City of Boulder Street Maintenance</b> Monday-Friday (7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)	303.413.7162
<b>Snow Dispatch</b> After hours and weekends (during snow storms)	303.413.7109
<b>Street &amp; Bikeway Maintenance Hotline</b> Operational 24 hours a day	303.413.7177
<b>Boulder County Road Maintenance</b> Winter hours Monday-Friday (7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.)	303.441.3962
After hours and weekends (Communications)	303.441.4444
<b>Colorado Department of Transportation</b> Conditions within Boulder County Monday-Friday (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)	303.442.4382
<b>Highway Conditions within two hours of Denver</b> <a href="http://www.cotrip.org">www.cotrip.org</a> 24-hour recording	303.639.1111

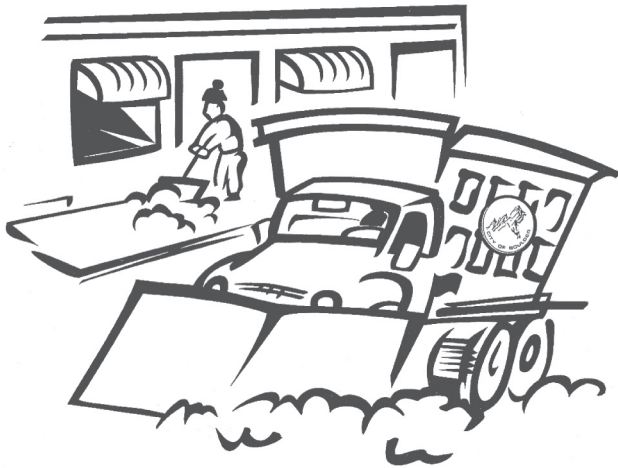
For online information: [www.WelcomeToBoulder.net](http://www.WelcomeToBoulder.net).  
Look for “Winter Tips” under “Information Resources

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# SNOW REMOVAL INFO

PARTNERS FOR SAFER STREETS



City of Boulder  
Department of Public Works

# OUR PART

## Snow Removal Operations

The city of Boulder’s snow crews are ready to respond 24 hours a day from mid-September to the end of April to snowy and icy conditions. The snow crews work hard to keep primary and secondary streets and on-street bike lanes open, using materials and equipment that help reduce the dangers inherent in winter travelling.

Before a snow storm starts, you may see city trucks putting a liquid deicer (magnesium chloride) on the streets. By “pretreating,” snow crews can slow down the buildup of snow and ice. Once snow accumulation begins, plows start moving snow off the streets, and spreader trucks begin putting down a granular deicer for traction where needed. The liquid deicer may be reapplied throughout a storm to continue melting the snow pack.

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On most primary and secondary streets, snow is plowed to the center dividing lane to prevent buildup on sidewalks. However, on some streets there is not enough room for center lane plowing, so snow is pushed to the side. This may narrow down travel and turn lanes.

The city strives to sweep all primary and secondary streets and all on-street bike lanes within four days following a snow storm to pick up any surplus traction materials.

Open this page for more information about our snow removal operations.

# SNOW SMART Q's & A's

**Q. Why doesn't the city plow residential streets?**

**A.** Boulder's sunny climate melts most snows in a day or two, and plowing on residential streets blocks parked cars and driveways. Also, plowing residential streets is expensive. If snow crews were to plow all residential streets, the city's plowing operation costs would increase by 200 percent.

Some homeowner's associations provide snow removal on private streets within their development. Call your homeowner's association to find out if this service is provided for your street.

**Snow Smart Fact #1**

Snow plows are wider than one lane. You can avoid getting squeezed on the road (and avoid limited visibility caused by flying snow) by NOT passing snow plows!

**Q. What is an "accident alert?"**

**A.** Accident alerts are declared by the Police Department if severe weather conditions exceed its capacity to respond to individual vehicular accidents. During an accident alert, the Police will not respond to vehicular accidents unless there are injuries, or alcohol or drugs are involved.

If you are in a vehicular accident during an accident alert, check for injuries. If no one is injured, move the vehicles out of traffic. Drivers must exchange names, addresses, phone numbers, driver's license numbers, vehicle descriptions and license numbers. The date, time and location of the accident must also be recorded before leaving the scene of the accident. You must also file a report with the Police Department within 24 hours.

**Snow Smart Fact #2**

Spreader trucks weigh up to 54,000 pounds when loaded. Because the trucks are heavy, they drive slowly. When you are behind a spreader truck, allow adequate stopping distance. Try to stay three to four car lengths behind.

**Q. What is Boulder doing to minimize environmental damage during snow season?**

**A.** The city uses alternative deicing and traction materials. The liquid deicing agent is a magnesium chloride solution. Magnesium chloride, a plant nutrient and soil stabilizer, is less corrosive than other deicing products. The traction material is an all-natural high-performance granular deicer. No rock salt is used in the snow removal operation.

**Q. When does the city plow public bike and pedestrian paths?**

**A.** Bike and pedestrian paths are cleared of snow and ice after snow starts to fall. The Broadway Path (Arapahoe to the south city limit) is plowed first, then the Foothills Parkway Path, and then the other paths. On-street bike lanes are cleared during street snow removal operations. The Boulder Creek Path is cleared by the city Parks and Recreation Department, 303-413-7200.

**Snow Smart Fact #3:**

Using alternative transportation during snow storms reduces the number of vehicles on the roadways and gives snow plows and spreader trucks more room to operate.

**Q. How can I avoid windshield damage during the winter?**

**A.** Don't pass spreader trucks or snow plows, and stay three to four car lengths behind these vehicles. The city's spreader trucks have spinners which distribute traction materials

**Q. Who do I call to report icy conditions?**

**A.** During a snowstorm, call the city of Boulder Snow Dispatcher at 303-413-7109 or after hours at 303-413-7177. You may also call city Transportation Maintenance at 303-413-7162 between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can also go online to WelcomeToBoulder.net and look for "Report a Problem" under "Information Resources."

